(c) whether India has returned the boats of Pakistani fishermen to them, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of Indian fishermen whose boats have been returned to them by Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) India released 157 Pakistani fishermen from January, 2004 to April, 2005.

(b) Pakistan released 800 Indian fishermen during the said period.

(c) India did not release any Pakistani fishing boat during January, 2004 to April, 2005

(d) Pakistan did not release any Indian fishing boat during the said period.

Agricultural workers

*354. SHRI BALAVANT *Alias* BAL APTE:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural sector employs more persons than any other sector, both as farmers and agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the total number of agricultural workers in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the details of various Central welfare schemes for agricultural workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOURAND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed (See below)

(c) The Government has launched several welfare and poverty alleviation/ employment generation schemes for the rural poor which, *inter-alia,* include agricultural workers. Some such schemes are: Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana, Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), etc. The Government is implementing Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) with the objective to provide assistance to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) rural households.

The Government has also launched a new wage employment scheme, namely National Food For Works Programme (NFFWP) in 150 most backward districts of 27 States of the country, to generate supplementary wage employment and to provide food security through creation of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts. The NFFWP is open to the rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual unskilled work. This programme will be replaced by the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Bill for which has been introduced in the Parliament. The Agricultural Insurance Company of India is implementing National Agricultural Insurance Scheme providing for insurance of crops during Khariff and Rabi Season. The Government has also introduced the National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill during last session of the Parliament. The objective of the Bill is to guarantee at least 100 days of employment in a year, to atleast one person in every rural household for asset creating public works programmes. Further, Janshree Bima Yojana providing for insurance cover to people living below or marginally above the poverty line, is also available for workers in the unorganised sector including agricultural workers. The Government has also redesigned the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHIS), which is available to families living below poverty line (BPL) wich, *inter-alia,* include agricultural workers, at subsidized annual premium of Rs. 165, Rs. 248 and Rs. 330 for individual, a family of five, and a family of seven respectively. The scheme provides for reimbursement of hospitalization expenses up to Rs. 30,000/- basis per family, coverage of death of worker due to accident (Rs. 25,000/-) etc.

Statement

State-wise total Agricultural labourers and total cultivators as per census 2001

India/States	Agricultural Labourers	Cultivators
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	13,832,152	7,859,534
Arunachal Pradesh	18,840	279,300
Assam	1,263,532	3,730,773

1	2	3
Bihar	13,417,744	8,193,621
Chhattisgarh	3,091,358	4,311,131
Goa	35,806	50,395
Gujarat	5,161,658	5,802,681
Haryana	1,278,821	3,018,014
Himachal Pradesh	94,171	1,954,870
Jammu& Kashmir	246,421	3,889,506
Jharkhand	2,851,297	3,889,506
Karnataka	6,226,942	6,883,856
Kerala	1,620,851	724,155
Madhya Pradesh	7,400,670	11,037,906
Maharashtra	10,815,262	11,813,275
Manipur*	113,630	379,705
Meghalaya	171,694	467,010
Mizoram	26,783	256,332
Nagaland	30,907	548,845
Orissa	4,999,104	4,247,661
Punjab	1,489,861	2,065,067
Rajasthan	2,523,719	13,140,066
Sikkim	17,000	131,258
Tamil Nadu	8,637,630	5,116,039
Tripura	276,132	313,300
Uttar Pradesh	13,400,911	22,167,562
Uttaranchal	259,683	5,653,922
West Bengal	7,362,957	5,653,922
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5,169	21,461
Chandigarh	563	2,141
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	14,715	39,470

1	2	3
Daman & Diu	1,323	4,034
Delhi	15,773	37,431
Lakshadweep	—	—
Pondicherry	72,251	10,900
India*	106,775,330	127,312,851

*NOTE. India and Manipur figures exclude Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divs. of Senapati District in Manipur State as census results were cancelled due to administrative and technical reasons.

Coal shortage

*355. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of coal in the country at present;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to ensure that no wastage of the commodity takes place;

(c) whether there is any proposal to import coal to tide over the situation; and

(d) if so, the sources thereof and the likely cost per metric tonne at which it would be available in the country, including insurance and freight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO):(a)As per demand assessed by the Planning Commission for 2005-06, the total raw coal demand would be 445.65 million tonnes whereas the total availability from indigenous sources is estimated at 406.48 million tonnes. This leaves a gap of 39.17 million tonnes. The shortage of coal in the country during 2005-06 is proposed to be met through imports by various sectors and also through additioal efforts for enhancement of domestic production.

(b) Around 80% of coal produced by CIL is consumed by power sector. In order to prevent wastage, Ministry of Power has worked out consumptbn